

## Message Text

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13

ORIGIN NEA-13

INFO OCT-01 PRS-01 ISO-00 AF-10 IO-14 EUR-25 H-03 PCH-02

SAB-01 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SAM-01 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15 EB-11

COME-00 INT-08 FEA-02 TRSE-00 SCI-06 CIEP-02 L-03

/173 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/P:WIWRIGHT

APPROVED BY NEA/P:WIWRIGHT

S/PRS - MR. KING (INFO)

AF/P - MRS. RUSSELL

IO/P - MR. BLACHLY

EUR/P - MR. SAVAGE

NEA/EGY - MR. STERNER

H - MISS FOLGER (INFO)

----- 110844

R 082032Z FEB 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USINT CAIRO

USINT DAMASCUS

USMISSION GENEVA

USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

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AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
USMISSION NATO  
USINT BAGHDAD  
AMEMBASSY SANAA BY POUCH

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: PFOR  
SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT PRESS BRIEFING

GENEVA FOR MEPC DEL

FOR YOUR INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE FOLLOWING IS PARTIAL  
EXCERPT FROM DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN'S PRESS BRIEFING  
FEBRUARY 8, 1974:

1. QUOTE: QUESTION: IS THERE ANYTHING FURTHER FROM THE U.S.  
STANDPOINT CONCERNING THE LIFTING OF THE ARAB OIL EMBARGO?  
ANSWER: NO, WE HAVE NOTHING ELSE TO ADD AT THIS TIME.

2. QUESTION: CAN YOU AMPLIFY, WHAT THE SECRETARY HAD IN MIND  
WHEN HE SAID IF THE OIL EMBARGO WAS NOT LIFTED IT WOULD  
AFFECT OUR DIPLOMATIC ATTITUDE? ANSWER: I DON'T THINK I  
WOULD WANT TO PUT MORE PRECISION ON THIS. ON BACKGROUND  
IT'S A NATURAL FACT OF LIFE. WE HAVE CARRIED ON AN  
EXTENSIVE AND ENERGETIC POLICY IN THE MIDDLE EAST, AND IF,  
IN SPIKE OF THIS ACTIVITY ON OUR PART, WE CONTINUE TO FACE  
AN EMBARGO, IT WOULD ONLY BE NATURAL TO LOOK INTO THE  
SITUATION AS TIME WENT ON. BUT I WOULD NOT WANT TO BE  
ANY MORE PRECISE THAN THAT.

3. QUESTION: THE REASON I ASKED IS PREVIOUSLY THE  
SECRETARY HAS MADE A POINT OF DRAWING A DISTINCTION  
BETWEEN AMERICAN DIPLOMATIC EFFORTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST  
TOWARD A SETTLEMENT AND THE EMBARGO QUESTION. HE RESISTED  
QUESTIONS AT PREVIOUS PRESS CONFERENCES TRYING TO ENGAGE  
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HIM INTO DRAWING SOME KIND OF LINKAGE. ANSWER: IN THAT  
CONNECTION, HIS LAST QUESTION AND ANSWER AT HARVARD, HE  
PUT A VERY BROAD BASIS ON WHY WE WERE DOING WHAT WE WERE  
DOING. HE SPOKE: "THE UNITED STATES HAS DECLARED,  
BECAUSE OF ITS CONVICTION THAT A CONTINUATION OF THE  
CONFLICT THERE HAS DANGER FOR ALL OF MANKIND, FOR THESE  
REASONS THE UNITED STATES" HAS BEEN READY TO HELP. AND  
I THINK THAT FACT SPEAKS FOR ITSELF.

4. QUESTION: HE ALSO SAID THAT HE HAD RECEIVED NO

OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION, AND I WANT AN EXPLANATION OF WHAT HE MEANT. DID HE MEAN HE HAD RECEIVED NO OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION THAT SYRIA WAS DEMANDING AN ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL TO THE 1967 LINE, OR NO OFFICIAL NOTIFICATION THAT THAT COMMITMENT IS BEING LINKED TO A LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO? ANSWER: HE USES, HIMSELF, A STATEMENT, "WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED ANY OFFICIAL INFORMATION TO THE EFFECT THAT SYRIA REQUIRES ISRAEL TO WITHDRAW TO THE '67 BORDER." AND I THINK I HAVE TO LEAVE THE STATEMENT AS IT STANDS.

5. QUESTION: HAS THE UNITED STATES BEEN INFORMED THAT ACTIVITY ON THE SYRIAN FRONT WOULD BE REQUIRED BEFORE LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO? ANSWER: I'M GOING TO LEAVE MYSELF RIGHT WHERE I WAS BEFORE, THAT I'M NOT AT THIS STAGE GOING TO DISCUSS THE DETAILS OF COMMUNICATIONS THAT ARE GOING ON.

6. QUESTION: CERTAIN COMMUNICATIONS WERE SPOKEN ABOUT PUBLICLY, BOTH BY THE PRESIDENT AND BY SECRETARY KISSINGER FOLLOWING HIS HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE HEARING. AT THAT TIME HE SAID THAT THE UNITED STATES HAD BEEN INFORMED THAT CERTAIN COUNTRIES WOULD ASK FOR LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO ON THE 14TH. HAS THE U.S. RECEIVED ANY SUBSEQUENT COMMUNICATIONS WHICH CAUSED DR. KISSINGER'S MORE PESSIMISTIC REMARKS AT THE HARVARD CLUB? ANSWER: I WOULD NOT ATTEMPT TO CHARACTERIZE HIS REMARKS, BUT I WOULD SAY THAT, AS FAR AS I KNOW, THE COMMUNICATIONS THAT WERE REFERRED TO STAND.

7. Q: SO THAT AS THE UNITED STATES OFFICIALLY UNDERSTANDS  
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IT, IT IS AS DR. KISSINGER STATED AFTER THE WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE, WHICH IS THAT CERTAIN COUNTRIES WOULD MOVE FOR A LIFTING OF THE EMBARGO, AND WE'VE HAD NOTHING. ANSWER: CORRECT

8. QUESTION: IS THERE ANY UNANNOUNCED MEETING OF THE SECRETARY WITH THE ALGERIAN OIL MINISTER TODAY? ANSWER: NO, I'M NOT AWARE OF ANY SUCH MEETINGS SCHEDULED AS OF THE PRESENT TIME. KISSINGER

NOTE BY OC/T: POUCHED SANAA.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 08 FEB 1974  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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30 JUN 2005

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**To:** AMMAN MULTIPLE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005